

ALASKA CROP-WEATHER

Alaska Division of Agriculture
Alaska Cooperative Extension
Ag & Forestry Experiment Station



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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P.O. Box 799
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RELEASED: September 15, 2008

GENERAL: There were **6.0 days suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** supplies were reported as 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were also listed as 100% adequate. **Barley** was 10% harvested, mostly in the Tanana Valley. **Oats** were reported as 15% ripe. Condition of the barley crop was 40% fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. Condition of the oat crop was 30% fair, 60% good, 10% excellent. **Potatoes** were reported as 5% harvested. Condition of the potato crop was 25% fair, 75% good. First cutting **hay** harvest was 95% complete statewide; second cutting was reported as 60% complete with most farms not getting a second cutting this year due to conditions. Hay condition was rated as 20% poor, 30% fair, 50% good. Winter supplies of hay were reported as 40% short, 60% adequate statewide. No **wind or rain damage** to crops was reported. The main **farm activities** for the week were harvesting hay, barley, potatoes and vegetables, fencing, general maintenance.

CROP WEATHER SUMMARY September 8 – September 15, 2008		
DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK: 6.0		
CROP	TOPSOIL MOISTURE	SUBSOIL MOISTURE
SHORT	0%	0%
ADEQUATE	100%	100%
SURPLUS	0%	0%
PAN EVAPORATION FOR 09/08 – 09/15 MAT AES SITE: -0.46		

TANANA VALLEY: An average of **7.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was also reported as 100% adequate. Temperatures once again dipped into the 20's around Delta Junction. **Barley** was reported as 10% harvested. **Oats** were reported as 15% ripe. Condition of the barley crop was 40% fair, 40% good, 20% excellent. Condition of the oat crop was 40% fair, 50% good, 10% excellent. First cutting **hay** harvest was 99% complete; second cutting was reported as 85% complete as many farmers won't get a second cutting. Condition of hay was rated as 25% poor, 25% fair, 50% good. No **wind or rain damage** was reported. **Farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay and barley, baling barley straw, discing stubble and general maintenance.

MATANUSKA VALLEY: An average of **5.0 days was suitable for fieldwork**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was also reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 5% harvested. First cutting **hay** harvest was 95% complete, second cutting was reported as 15% complete, however many farmers will not get a second cutting this year. Condition of hay was rated as 15% poor, 40% fair, 45% good. No **wind or rain damage** was reported. Major **farm activities** during the week included general maintenance, fencing, harvesting hay, native grass seeds, potatoes and vegetables.

KENAI PENINSULA: There were **5.0 days suitable for fieldwork last week**. **Topsoil moisture** was reported at 100% adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was also reported as 100% adequate. **Potatoes** were 10% harvested. First cutting **hay** harvest was 90% complete, second cutting was 40% complete. Condition of hay was rated as 15% poor, 20% fair, 50% good, 15% excellent. Major **farm activities** for the week included harvesting hay and vegetables, machinery maintenance.

Soil Temperatures (F⁰) at 4 inch depth

	Grass			Fallow land			Temperature		Precip
	2008	2007	2006	2008	2007	2006	High	Low	(inches)
UAF-AFES, Trunk Road	55	55	54	55	52	52	63	42	.11
Sawmill Creek	45	na	47	na	na	na	65	31	.19
Plant Materials Center	51	na	50	na	na	na	63	39	.04

PAN EVAPORATION

Pan evaporation is an indirect estimation of evapotranspiration or consumptive water use by plants. For purposes of watering or irrigation of plants, it is a good indicator of climatic effects on water use by crops. A positive reading indicates that evaporation exceeded precipitation.

Weather Summary For Alaska Agricultural Statistics Service
 Prepared By AWIS.com from NWS preliminary data

For the Period: Monday September 1, 2008
 To: Sunday September 7, 2008

STATION	LAST WEEK WEATHER SUMMARY						May 1, 08 - September 7, 08						GDD
	TEMPERATURE			PRECIPITATION			PRECIPITATION			GDD BASE 50F			BASE
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL	DFN	TOT	
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Fairbanks Intl	71	37	55	+5	0.02	2	9.75	+3.94	56	853	-84	2085	
Fairbanks/Eiels	69	31	51	+1	0.01	1	13.49	+6.13	63	565	-327	1727	
Nenana Muni AM	70	38	53	+5	0.01	1	9.65	+3.95	53	610	-191	1783	
Ftgreely/Allen	67	32	52	+3	0.01	1	10.93	+2.56	56	504	-332	1665	
Healy River Air	65	39	54	+5	0.13	3	5.72	-2.85	67	395	-271	1469	
Gulkana Arpt_A	64	31	49	+2	0.18	4	7.13	+0.99	54	280	-198	1335	
Sutton	57	34	48	-3	1.07	7	7.64	-0.38	91	226	-274	1276	
Palmer Municipa	63	43	53	+2	0.06	1	4.05	-2.96	42	486	-168	1684	
Talkeetna	65	41	53	+4	0.44	5	8.38	-4.63	54	481	-171	1619	
Willow Airport	64	44	54	+2	1.08	7	7.64	+0.87	82	580	-73	1772	
Anchorage Intl	61	43	53	+1	0.41	3	7.50	+0.33	41	443	-217	1580	
Kenai Municipal	64	38	54	+5	0.68	5	4.17	-3.08	52	368	-15	1441	
Homer	59	45	52	+2	1.26	6	6.89	+0.32	54	195	-144	1198	
Kodiak	58	42	50	-3	5.04	4	43.50	+21.61	72	230	-141	1191	

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